GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:316
ANSWERED ON:15.04.2002
USE OF SATELLITE IMAGERY TO MAP DIAMOND DEPOSITS
KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether satellite imagery is being used to map and identify diamond deposits in the country;

(b) if so, the States where this work is being done;

(c) the names of companies which are engaged in this work; and

(d) the outcome of the work done during the last three years ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFFERED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.316 REGARDING USE OF SATE IMAGERY TO MAP DIAMOND DEPOSITS ASKED BY SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU FOR ANSWER ON 15.4.2002.

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. Satellite Imagery and aerial photography are being used to identify prospective areas as supporting tool to locate kimberlite/lamproite bodies which normally host diamonds in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa.

(c) : As per information received from Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM),seven companies have been granted Prospecting Licences/Reconaissance Permits for exploration for diamond and other precious minerals in the State of Andhra Pradesh.Out of the seven companies three companies i.e. National Mineral Development Corporation Limited (NMDC), M/s. De-Beers and M/s. Geo Mysore Services (India) Pvt. Ltd. have proposed to use Satellite Imagery and Remote Sensing for exploration of diamonds.

(d) : The results of prospecting by the these companies are yet to be received. However, during the last three years GSI has identified Kimberlite/Lamproite pipes and plugs in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh, Gulbarga and Raichur districts of Karnataka and Bargarh district of Orissa based on integration of remote sensing and aero-geophysical data followed by ground evaluation. Micro diamonds have been recovered from Tumkur district in Karnataka from stream sediments based on such studies.